GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3879
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2007
EXCESS PROCUREMENT OF WHEAT BY PRIVATE COMPANIES
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram;Pandey Dr. Laxminarayan;Tripathi Shri Chandramani;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain private companies engaged in retail business have procured wheat in excess of their prescribed quota;

(b) if so, the details of such companies;

(c) the details of the quota prescribed for the procurement and the quantum of wheat actually procured by each of the said companies;

(d) the details of the action taken by the Government against them;

(e) whether the Government proposes to recover the quantum of wheat procured by these companies in excess of their quota;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to monitor hoarding of wheat and stock position?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a): No limit has been laid down by Central Government on procurement of wheat by private companies.

(b),(c),(d),(e)&(f): Do not arise.

(g): Government has issued the Wheat (Stock Declaration by Companies or Firms or Individuals) Order, 2007 on 1.3.2007. The order provides that any Company or Firm or Individual who purchases wheat beyond 50,000 tonnes (total purchases made throughout the Country) during the Rabi Marketing Season 2007-08 shall furnish periodical returns to the Central Government about quantity purchased and quantity held in stock. The State Governments have been empowered to impose stock limits on wheat vide Order issued by Department of Consumer Affairs on 29.8.2006. The validity of this •Order has been extended by another six months on 27.2.2007. Besides raids are being conducted by State Governments under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and detention of persons is being made under the Prevention of Blackmarketing & Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980 by the respective State Governments to check hoarding and blackmarketing of essential commodities.